

# CDF Checklist of Galapagos Animals with a notochord

Angel Chiriboga, Diego Ruiz, Nathalia Tirado, Stuart Banks

**Last updated:** 22 Nov 2012

## Abstract

This Checklist of Galapagos Animals with a notochord includes a total of all 19 taxa reported from the Galapagos Islands.

For each name, detailed information is provided: its Galapagos distribution in islands groups or bioregions generated from the specimen records, comments about the taxonomy (especially synonyms), the origin (native and introduced), taxon status (accepted vs. rejected records) and relevant literature references.

## Introduction

This publication lists all species of Galapagos Animals with a notochord currently known.

This list here excludes the subphylum Vertebrata which is covered under [Terrestrial and Marine Vertebrates](#).

Included here are non-vertebrate Chordates that occur in the Galapagos Marine Reserve. These organisms are characterized by their adaptability to various habitats and their capacity for internal self-regulation and organization.

The principal families of this group include the Polyclinidae, Didemnidae, Polycitoridae, Styelidae, and Ascidiidae.

## Methods

This checklist of all known Galapagos Animals with a notochord is automatically generated using the online database of the Charles Darwin Foundation Galapagos Species Checklist.

All CDF Galapagos Species Checklists represent the synthesis of many different records: literature citations, data from previously unpublished reports (grey literature), specimen records of natural history collections located in Galapagos and all over the world. To the best of their knowledge authors of the individual checklists revised all available data. When new information becomes available, the taxonomy of a group changes or new species are discovered, the CDF online database and thus this publication becomes updated.

For many poorly known species groups the higher taxonomic classification still regularly changes according to how our knowledge about species being related changes. In many well known groups the phylogeny is somewhat stable, but to avoid confusion, in particular for groups where taxonomic changes are frequent, all checklists presented here are sorted alphabetical according to genus name and specific epithet. Please refer to the website for the currently accepted taxonomic hierarchy of each group.

Please be aware that the distribution presented here is automatically generated from specimen records and does not always accurately reflect the known distribution for all species.

For marine species, the distribution generally refers to the five main bioregions of the archipelago (Far Northern, Northern, Western, South Eastern and the Elisabeth Bay Bioregion). For the terrestrial species more than 120 islands, islets and small rocks have been aggregated into Islands Groups, thus, for example, the island group "Santa Cruz" includes smaller islands like Santa Fé, Plaza Norte, Plaza Sur, Baltra, Daphne Mayor, Daphne Minor, and others.

IUCN red-list assessments presented here may deviate from the global IUCN list for the following reasons:

- for well known species groups like vascular plants or vertebrates updates proposed to the IUCN are shown instead of the outdated, but currently accepted status;
- for poorly known species groups (e.g., lichenized fungi) a general assessment is currently not possible and the list presented here is a regional red-list list for Galapagos archipelago.

Numbers of the species included in this list are auto-generated. Adding up the number of species in each category will not always equal the total number indicated. Some species have insufficient data to be categorized while others (e.g., category eradicated) will not be included in the total.

## Results

**Names of taxa included in this checklist:** 19 (14 accepted, 5 unidentified taxon).

**Origin of the taxa included:** 1 migrant.

1. *Aplidium solidum* Herdman, 1891

**Taxon status:** Accepted name; taxon occurs in Galapagos.

**Origin:** No Data.

**IUCN Red List:** Not Evaluated.

**Galapagos Distribution:** Unknown.

**References:** Appeltans, W. et al. (2010), Hickman, C.P. Jr. et al. (2005).

2. *Botryllus tuberatus* Ritter & Forsyth, 1917

**Taxon status:** Accepted name; taxon occurs in Galapagos.

**Origin:** No Data.

**IUCN Red List:** Not Evaluated.

**Galapagos Distribution:** Unknown.

**References:** Appeltans, W. et al. (2010), Bustamante, R.H. et al. (2002).

3. *Cystodytes dellechiaiei* (Della Valle, 1877)

**Taxon status:** Accepted name; taxon occurs in Galapagos.

**Origin:** No Data.

**IUCN Red List:** Not Evaluated.

**Galapagos Distribution:** Unknown.

4. *Didemnum cineraceum* (Sluiter, 1898)

**Taxon status:** Accepted name; taxon occurs in Galapagos.

**Origin:** No Data.

**IUCN Red List:** Not Evaluated.

**Galapagos Distribution:** Unknown.

**References:** Appeltans, W. et al. (2010), Banks, S. et al. (2009).

5. *Didemnum perlucidum* Monniot, 1983  
**Taxon status:** Accepted name; taxon occurs in Galapagos.  
**Origin:** No Data.  
**IUCN Red List:** Not Evaluated.  
**Galapagos Distribution:** Santiago.
  
6. *Diplosoma listerianum* (Milne-Edwards, 1841)  
**Taxon status:** Accepted name; taxon occurs in Galapagos.  
**Origin:** No Data.  
**IUCN Red List:** Not Evaluated.  
**Galapagos Distribution:** Unknown.  
**References:** Appeltans, W. et al. (2010).
  
7. *Doliolina muelleri* (Krohn, 1852)  
**Taxon status:** Accepted name; taxon occurs in Galapagos.  
Syn.: *Doliolum muelleri* Krohn (Basionym), fide Appeltans et al. (2010)  
**Origin:** No Data.  
**Galapagos Distribution:** Unknown.  
**References:** Appeltans, W. et al. (2010).
  
8. *Doliolum denticulatum* Quoy & Gaimard, 1834  
**Taxon status:** Accepted name; taxon occurs in Galapagos.  
**Origin:** No Data.  
**Galapagos Distribution:** Unknown.  
**References:** Appeltans, W. et al. (2010).
  
9. *Doliolum sp.*  
**Taxon status:** Taxon not identified to species, subspecies, form or variety.  
**Origin:** No Data.  
**Galapagos Distribution:** Unknown.
  
10. *Eusynstyela tincta* (Van Name, 1902)  
**Taxon status:** Accepted name; taxon occurs in Galapagos.  
**Origin:** No Data.  
**IUCN Red List:** Not Evaluated.  
**Galapagos Distribution:** Unknown.
  
11. *Halocynthia hispida* (Herdman, 1881)  
**Taxon status:** Accepted name; taxon occurs in Galapagos.  
Acc. name: *Halocynthia dumosa* (Stimpson, 1855), fide Appeltans et al. (2001)  
**Origin:** No Data.  
**IUCN Red List:** Not Evaluated.  
**Galapagos Distribution:** San Cristóbal, Santa Cruz.  
**References:** Appeltans, W. et al. (2010).

12. *Iasis sp.*  
**Taxon status:** Taxon not identified to species, subspecies, form or variety.  
**Origin:** No Data.  
**Galapagos Distribution:** Unknown.
  
13. *Leptoclinides sp.*  
**Taxon status:** Taxon not identified to species, subspecies, form or variety.  
**Origin:** No Data.  
**Galapagos Distribution:** Unknown.  
**References:** Appeltans, W. et al. (2010), Bustamante, R.H. et al. (2002).
  
14. *Metandrocarpa manina* Gill, 1862  
**Taxon status:** Accepted name; taxon occurs in Galapagos.  
**Origin:** No Data.  
**IUCN Red List:** Not Evaluated.  
**Galapagos Distribution:** Unknown.
  
15. *Polyandrocarpa ecuadorensis* Gill, 1862  
**Taxon status:** Accepted name; taxon occurs in Galapagos.  
**Origin:** No Data.  
**IUCN Red List:** Not Evaluated.  
**Galapagos Distribution:** Unknown.
  
16. *Polyandrocarpa sagamiensis* Gill, 1862  
**Taxon status:** Accepted name; taxon occurs in Galapagos.  
**Origin:** No Data.  
**IUCN Red List:** Not Evaluated.  
**Galapagos Distribution:** Unknown.
  
17. *Salpa sp.*  
**Taxon status:** Taxon not identified to species, subspecies, form or variety.  
**Origin:** No Data.  
**Galapagos Distribution:** Unknown.
  
18. *Stenella attenuata* Gray, 1874  
**Taxon status:** Accepted name; taxon occurs in Galapagos.  
**Origin:** Native, Migrant.  
**Galapagos Distribution:** Unknown.  
**References:** Constant, P. et al. (2007), Gelin, A. et al. (2002), Merlen, G. et al. (1995), Palacios, D.M. et al. (2004), Palacios, D.M. et al. (2002), Palacios, D.M. et al. (1999).
  
19. *Thalia sp.*  
**Taxon status:** Taxon not identified to species, subspecies, form or variety.  
**Origin:** No Data.  
**Galapagos Distribution:** Unknown.

## Acknowledgements

We are grateful for the financial report received for this project. Please refer to the website ([www.darwinfoundation.org/datazone/checklist/](http://www.darwinfoundation.org/datazone/checklist/)) for a detailed list of all our donors.

This checklist would not be possible without adjunct and collaborating scientists, and volunteers of the Charles Darwin Foundation. The following scientists and volunteers have contributed to the CDF Checklist of Galapagos Animals with a notochord: Margarita Brandt, Rodrigo Bustamante, Graham Edgar, José Miguel Fariña, Cleveland Hickman, Fernando Pinillos, Fernando Rivera, Franz Smith, Mariana Vera, Luis Vinueza.

## References

1. Appeltans, W., Bouchet, P., Boxshall, G.A., Fauchald, K., Gordon, D.P., Hoeksema, B.W., Poore, G.C.B., van Soest, R.W.M., Stöhr, S., Walter, T.C., Costello, M.J. (eds.) (2010) *World Register of Marine Species (WoRMS)*. Available online at <http://www.marinespecies.org>.
2. Banks, S., Vera, M. & Chiriboga, A. (2009) *Establishing Reference Points to Assess Long-Term Change in Zooxanthellate Coral Communities of the Northern Galapagos Coral Reefs*. J. Sci. Conserv. in the Galapagos Islands, p. 43-64.
3. Bustamante, R.H., Vinueza, L.R., Smith, F., Banks, S., Calvopiña, M., Francisco, V., Chiriboga, A., Harris, J. (2002) *Comunidades submareales rocosas I: Organismos sésiles y mesoinvertebrados móviles*. In: Danulat, E. & Edgar, G.J. (eds.) (2002): *Reserva Marina de Galápagos. Línea Base de la Biodiversidad*. Fundación Charles Darwin/Servicio Parque Nacional Galápagos, Santa Cruz, Galápagos, Ecuador, p. 38-67.
4. Constant, P. (2007) *Marine Life of the Galapagos*. The Diver's guide to Fishes, Whales, Dolphins and marine Invertebrates, 307 pp.
5. Gelin, A., Gravez, V. (2002) *Lagunas costeras*. In: Danulat, E. & Edgar, G.J. (eds.) (2002): *Reserva Marina de Galápagos. Línea Base de la Biodiversidad*. Fundación Charles Darwin/Servicio Parque Nacional Galápagos, Santa Cruz, Galápagos, Ecuador, p. 119-145.
6. Hickman, C.P. Jr., Chiriboga, A., Ober, W.C. (2005) *A field guide to corals of Galápagos*. Sugar Spring Press, Lexington, Virginia, 54 pp.
7. Merlen, G. (1995) *A field guide to the marine mammals of Galapagos*. Charles Darwin Foundation.
8. Palacios, D.M. (1999) *Distribution of dolphins in Galapagos waters*. Marine Mammal Science 15(2): 550-555.
9. Palacios, D.M., Salazar, S. (2002) *Cetaceos*. In: Danulat, E. & G.J. Edgar (eds.): *Reserva marina de Galápagos. Línea base de la biodiversidad*. Fundación Charles Darwin/Servicio Parque Nacional Galápagos, Santa Cruz, Galápagos, Ecuador. p. 291-302.
10. Palacios, D.M., Salazar, S.K. & Day, D. (2004) *Cetacean remains and strandings in the Galapagos Islands, 1923-2003*. Lajam 3(2): 127-150.

---

## Disclaimer

The Charles Darwin Foundation Galapagos Species Checklist is a continuously updated list of all species currently known from the Galapagos Islands and reflects up-to-date knowledge compiled by scientists of the Charles Darwin Foundation (CDF) in collaboration with experts from

around the world. CDF shares this data publicly and invites comments, corrections and additions.

Please do not hesitate to contact us; your input is very welcome. However, please understand that additions, changes, and corrections will be posted at periodic intervals after thorough cross-referencing of all new data. As an independent international scientific organization, the Charles Darwin Foundation relies on funding from donors who support our work. Please contact us at [datazone@fcdarwin.org.ec](mailto:datazone@fcdarwin.org.ec) if you would like to support the Charles Darwin Foundation Galapagos Species Checklist and help make knowledge of Galapagos biodiversity more widely available.